

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

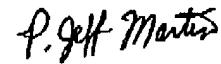
Before entry of this amendment, Claims 1-11 were pending, and at present, Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, and 11 stand rejected. Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice. Claims 3, 4, and 6-9 remain as originally submitted.

The examiner respectfully objected to Claims 2-4 and 7-9 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were considered allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form from which claims 3 and 4 now depend, thus placing claim 2 and dependent claims 3 and 4 in condition for allowance. Claim 5 was amended to be dependent upon currently amended, independent claim 2, and thus should be in condition for allowance. Claims 6-9 now depend from previous claims placed in condition for allowance, thus necessarily placing claims 6-9 now in condition for allowance. Remaining claims 10 and 11 have been amended to be dependent upon currently amended, independent claim 2, now placed in condition for allowance, hence necessarily placing claims 10 and 11 in condition for allowance.

Therefore, in view of foregoing amendments and clarifications, the applicant submits that allowance of the present application and all remaining claims, as amended, is in order and a formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested at the earliest possible date.

**Utility Patent
Ser. No. 10/603,325**

Respectfully submitted,



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